

# ON THE COBAR CONSTRUCTION OF A BIALGEBRA

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**ABSTRACT.** We show that the cobar construction of a DG-bialgebra is a homotopy G-algebra. This implies that the bar construction of this cobar is a DG-bialgebra as well.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The cobar construction  $\Omega C$  of a DG-coalgebra  $(C, d : C \rightarrow C, \Delta : C \rightarrow C \otimes C)$  is, by definition, a DG-algebra. Suppose now that  $C$  is additionally equipped with a multiplication  $\mu : C \otimes C \rightarrow C$  turning  $(C, d, \Delta, \mu)$  into a DG-bialgebra. How this multiplication reflects on the cobar construction  $\Omega C$ ?

It was shown by Adams [1] that in mod 2 situation in this case the multiplication of  $\Omega C$  is homotopy commutative: there exists a  $\smile_1$  product

$$\smile_1 : \Omega C \otimes \Omega C \rightarrow \Omega C$$

which satisfies the standard condition

$$d(a \smile_1 b) = da \smile_1 b + a \smile_1 db + a \cdot b + b \cdot a, \quad (1)$$

(since we work mod 2 the signes are ignored in whole paper).

In this note we show that this  $\smile_1$  gives rise to a sequence of operations

$$E_{1,k} : \Omega C \otimes (\Omega C)^{\otimes k} \rightarrow \Omega C, \quad k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

which form on the cobar construction  $\Omega C$  of a DG-bialgebra a structure of *homotopy G-algebra* (hGa) in the sense of Gerstenhaber and Voronov [8].

There are two remarkable examples of homotopy G-algebras.

The first one is the cochain complex of 1-reduced simplicial set  $C^*(X)$ . The operations  $E_{1,k}$  here are dual to cooperations defined by Baues in [2], and the starting operation  $E_{1,1}$  is the classical Steenrod's  $\smile_1$  product.

The second example is the Hochschild cochain complex  $C^*(U, U)$  of an associative algebra  $U$ . The operations  $E_{1,k}$  here were defined in [11] with the purpose to describe  $A(\infty)$ -algebras in terms of Hochschild cochains although the properties of those operations which where used as defining ones for the notion of homotopy G-algebra in [8] did not appear there. These operations where defined also in [9]. Again the starting operation  $E_{1,1}$  is the classical Gerstenhaber's circle product which is sort of  $\smile_1$ -product in the Hochschild complex.

In this paper we present the third example of homotopy G-algebra: we construct the operations  $E_{1,k}$  on the cobar construction  $\Omega C$  of a DG-bialgebra  $C$ , and the starting operation  $E_{1,1}$  is again classical, it is Adams's  $\smile_1$ -product.

The notion of hGa was introduced in [8] as an additional structure on a DG-algebra  $(A, d, \cdot)$  that induces a Gerstenhaber algebra structure on homology. The

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source of the defining identities and the main example was Hochschild cochain complex  $C^*(U, U)$ . Another point of view is that hGa is a particular case of  $B(\infty)$ -algebra. This is an additional structure on a DG-algebra  $(A, d, \cdot)$  that induces a DG-bialgebra structure on the bar construction  $BA$ .

We emphasize the third aspect of hGa: this is a structure which measures the noncommutativity of  $A$ . There exists the classical tool which measures the noncommutativity of a DG-algebra  $(A, d, \cdot)$ , namely the Steenrod's  $\smile_1$  product, satisfying the condition (1). The existence of such  $\smile_1$  guarantees the commutativity of  $H(A)$ , but  $\smile_1$  product satisfying just the condition (1) is too poor for most of applications. In many constructions some deeper properties of  $\smile_1$  are needed, for example the compatibility with the dot product of  $A$  (the Hirsch formula)

$$(a \cdot b) \smile_1 c + a \cdot (b \smile_1 c) + (a \smile_1 c) \cdot b = 0. \quad (2)$$

For a hGa  $(A, d, \cdot, \{E_{1,k}\})$  the starting operation  $E_{1,1}$  is a kind of  $\smile_1$  product: it satisfies the conditions (1) and (2). As for the symmetric expression

$$a \smile_1 (b \cdot c) + b \cdot (a \smile_1 c) + (a \smile_1 b) \cdot c,$$

it is just *homotopical to zero* and the appropriate homotopy is the operation  $E_{1,2}$ . The defining conditions of a hGa which satisfy higher operations  $E_{1,k}$  can be regarded as generalized Hirsch formulas. So we can say that a hGa is a DG-algebra with a "good"  $\smile_1$  product.

## 2. NOTATION AND PRELIMINARIES

We work over  $Z_2$ . For a graded  $Z_2$ -module  $M$  we denote by  $sM$  the suspension of  $M$ , i.e.  $(sM)^i = M^{i-1}$ . Respectively  $s^{-1}M$  denotes the desuspension of  $M$ , i.e.  $(s^{-1}M)^i = M^{i+1}$ .

A *differential graded algebra* (DG-algebra) is a graded R-module  $C = \{C^i\}$ ,  $i \in Z$ , with an associative multiplication  $\mu : C^i \otimes C^j \rightarrow C^{i+j}$  and a homomorphism (a differential)  $d : C^i \rightarrow C^{i+1}$  with  $d^2 = 0$  and satisfying the Leibniz rule  $d(x \cdot y) = dx \cdot y + x \cdot dy$ , where  $x \cdot y = \mu(x \otimes y)$ . We assume that a DG-algebra contains a unit  $1 \in C^0$ . A non-negatively graded DG-algebra  $C$  is *connected* if  $C^0 = Z_2$ . A connected DG-algebra  $C$  is *n-reduced* if  $C^i = 0, 1 \leq i \leq n$ . A DG-algebra is *commutative* if  $\mu = \mu T$ , where  $T(x \otimes y) = y \otimes x$ .

A *differential graded coalgebra* (DG-coalgebra) is a graded  $Z_2$ -module  $C = \{C_i\}$ ,  $i \in Z$ , with a coassociative comultiplication  $\Delta : C \rightarrow C \otimes C$  and a homomorphism (a differential)  $d : C_i \rightarrow C_{i+1}$  with  $d^2 = 0$  and satisfying  $\Delta d = (d \otimes id + id \otimes d)\Delta$ . A DG-coalgebra  $C$  is assumed to have a counit  $\epsilon : C \rightarrow Z_2$ ,  $(\epsilon \otimes id)\Delta = (id \otimes \epsilon)\Delta = id$ . A non-negatively graded dgc  $C$  is *connected* if  $C_0 = Z_2$ . A connected DG-coalgebra  $C$  is *n-reduced* if  $C_i = 0, 1 \leq i \leq n$ .

A *differential graded bialgebra* (DG-bialgebra)  $(C, d, \mu, \Delta)$  is a DG-coalgebra  $(C, d, \Delta)$  with a morphism of DG-coalgebras  $\mu : C \otimes C \rightarrow C$  turning  $(C, d, \mu)$  into a DG-algebra.

**2.1. Cobar and Bar constructions.** Let  $M$  be a graded  $Z_2$ -vector space with  $M^{i \leq 0} = 0$  and let  $T(M)$  be the tensor algebra of  $M$ , i.e.  $T(M) = \bigoplus_{i=0}^{\infty} M^{\otimes i}$ .  $T(M)$  is a free graded algebra: for a graded algebra  $A$  and a homomorphism  $\alpha : M \rightarrow A$  of degree zero there exists its *multiplicative extension*, a unique morphism of graded algebras  $f_{\alpha} : T(M) \rightarrow A$  such that  $f_{\alpha}(a) = \alpha(a)$ . The map  $f_{\alpha}$  is given by  $f_{\alpha}(a_1 \otimes \dots \otimes a_n) = \alpha(a_1) \cdot \dots \cdot \alpha(a_n)$ .

Dually, let  $T^c(M)$  be the tensor coalgebra of  $M$ , i.e.  $T^c(M) = \bigoplus_{i=0}^{\infty} M^{\otimes i}$ , and the comultiplication  $\nabla : T^c(M) \rightarrow T^c(M) \otimes T^c(M)$  is given by

$$\nabla(a_1 \otimes \dots \otimes a_n) = \sum_{k=0}^n (a_1 \otimes \dots \otimes a_k) \otimes (a_{k+1} \otimes \dots \otimes a_n).$$

$(T^c(M), \nabla)$  is a cofree graded coalgebra: for a graded coalgebra  $C$  and a homomorphism  $\beta : C \rightarrow M$  of degree zero there exists its *comultiplicative extension*, a unique morphism of graded coalgebras  $g_\beta : C \rightarrow T^c(M)$  such that  $p_1 g_\beta = \beta$ , here  $p_1 : T^c(M) \rightarrow M$  is the clear projection. The map  $g_\beta$  is given by

$$g_\beta(c) = \sum_n \beta(c^{(1)}) \otimes \dots \otimes \beta(c^{(n)}),$$

where  $\Delta^n(c) = c^{(1)} \otimes \dots \otimes c^{(n)}$  and  $\Delta^n : C \rightarrow C^{\otimes n}$  is  $n$ -th iteration of the diagonal  $\Delta : C \rightarrow C \otimes C$ , i.e.  $\Delta^1 = id$ ,  $\Delta^2 = \Delta$ ,  $\Delta^n = (\Delta^{n-1} \otimes id)\Delta$ .

Let  $(C, d_C, \Delta)$  be a connected DG-coalgebra and  $\Delta = id \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes id + \Delta'$ . The (reduced) *cobar construction*  $\Omega C$  on  $C$  is a DG-algebra whose underlying graded algebra is  $T(sC^{>0})$ . An element  $(sc_1 \otimes \dots \otimes sc_n) \in (sC)^{\otimes n} \subset T(sC^{>0})$  is denoted by  $[c_1, \dots, c_n] \in \Omega C$ . The differential on  $\Omega C$  is the sum  $d = d_1 + d_2$  which for a generator  $[c] \in \Omega C$  is defined by  $d_1[c] = [d_C(c)]$  and  $d_2[c] = \sum [c', c'']$  for  $\Delta'(c) = \sum c' \otimes c''$ , and extended as a derivation.

Let  $(A, d_A, \mu)$  be a 1-reduced DG-algebra. The (reduced) *bar construction*  $BA$  on  $A$  is a DG-coalgebra whose underlying graded coalgebra is  $T^c(s^{-1}A^{>0})$ . Again an element  $(s^{-1}a_1 \otimes \dots \otimes s^{-1}a_n) \in (s^{-1}A)^{\otimes n} \subset T^c(s^{-1}A^{>0})$  we denote as  $[a_1, \dots, a_n] \in BA$ . The differential of  $BA$  is the sum  $d = d_1 + d_2$  which for an element  $[a_1, \dots, a_n] \in BA$  is defined by

$$d_1[a_1, \dots, a_n] = \sum_{i=1}^n [a_1, \dots, d_A a_i, \dots, a_n], \quad d_2[a_1, \dots, a_n] = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} [a_1, \dots, a_i \cdot a_{i+1}, \dots, a_n].$$

**2.2. Twisting cochains.** Let  $(C, d, \Delta)$  be a dgc,  $(A, d, \mu)$  a dga. A twisting cochain [5] is a homomorphism  $\tau : C \rightarrow A$  of degree +1 satisfying the Browns' condition

$$d\tau + \tau d = \tau \smile \tau, \tag{3}$$

where  $\tau \smile \tau' = \mu_A(\tau \otimes \tau')\Delta$ . We denote by  $T(C, A)$  the set of all twisting cochains  $\tau : C \rightarrow A$ .

There are universal twisting cochains  $C \rightarrow \Omega C$  and  $BA \rightarrow A$  being clear inclusion and projection respectively. Here are essential consequences of the condition (3):

- (i) The multiplicative extension  $f_\tau : \Omega C \rightarrow A$  is a map of DG-algebras, so there is a bijection  $T(C, A) \leftrightarrow \text{Hom}_{DG-\text{Alg}}(\Omega C, A)$ ;
- (ii) The comultiplicative extension  $g_\tau : C \rightarrow BA$  is a map of DG0coalgebras, so there is a bijection  $T(C, A) \leftrightarrow \text{Hom}_{DG-\text{Coalg}}(C, BA)$ .

### 3. HOMOTOPY G-ALGEBRAS

**3.1. Products in the bar construction.** Let  $(A, d, \cdot)$  be a 1-reduced DG-algebra and  $BA$  it's bar construction. We are interested in the structure of a multiplication

$$\mu : BA \otimes BA \rightarrow BA,$$

turning  $BA$  into a DG-bialgebra, i.e. we require that

- (i)  $\mu$  is a DG-coalgebra map;
- (ii) is associative;
- (iii) has the unit element  $1_\Lambda \in \Lambda \subset BA$ .

Because of the cofreeness of the tensor coalgebra  $BA = T^c(s^{-1}A)$ , a map of graded coalgebras

$$\mu : BA \otimes BA \rightarrow BA$$

is uniquely determined by the projection of degree +1

$$E = pr \cdot \mu : BA \otimes BA \rightarrow BA \rightarrow A.$$

Conversely, a homomorphism  $E : BA \otimes BA \rightarrow A$  of degree +1 determines its coextension, a graded coalgebra map  $\mu_E : BA \otimes BA \rightarrow BA$  given by

$$\mu_E = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (E \otimes \dots \otimes E) \nabla_{BA \otimes BA}^k,$$

where  $\nabla_{BA \otimes BA}^k : BA \otimes BA \rightarrow (BA \otimes BA)^{\otimes k}$  is the  $k$ -fold iteration of the standard coproduct of tensor product of coalgebras

$$\nabla_{BA \otimes BA} = (id \otimes T \otimes id)(\nabla \otimes \nabla) : BA \otimes BA \rightarrow (BA \otimes BA)^{\otimes 2}.$$

The map  $\mu_E$  is a *chain map* (i.e. it is a map of DG-coalgebras) if and only if  $E$  is a twisting cochain in the sense of E. Brown, i.e. satisfies the condition

$$dE + Ed_{BA \otimes BA} = E \smile E. \quad (4)$$

Indeed, again because of the cofreeness of the tensor coalgebra  $BA = T^c(s^{-1}A)$  the condition  $d_{BA}\mu_E = \mu_E d_{BA \otimes BA}$  is satisfied if and only if it is satisfied after the projection on  $A$ , i.e. if  $pr \cdot d_{BA}\mu_E = pr \cdot \mu_E d_{BA \otimes BA}$  but this condition is nothing else than the Brown's condition (4).

The same argument shows that the product  $\mu_E$  is *associative* if and only if  $pr \cdot \mu_E(\mu_E \otimes id) = pr \cdot \mu_E(id \otimes \mu_E)$ , or, having in mind  $E = pr \cdot \mu_E$

$$E(\mu_E \otimes id) = E(id \otimes \mu_E). \quad (5)$$

A homomorphism  $E : BA \otimes BA \rightarrow A$  consists of *components*

$$\{\bar{E}_{p,q} : (s^{-1}A)^{\otimes p} \otimes (s^{-1}A)^{\otimes q} \rightarrow A, p, q = 0, 1, 2, \dots\},$$

where  $\bar{E}_{pq}$  is the restriction of  $E$  on  $(s^{-1}A)^{\otimes p} \otimes (s^{-1}A)^{\otimes q}$ . Each component  $\bar{E}_{p,q}$  can be regarded as an operation

$$E_{p,q} : A^{\otimes p} \otimes A^{\otimes q} \rightarrow A, p, q = 0, 1, 2, \dots.$$

The value of  $E_{p,q}$  on the element  $(a_1 \otimes \dots \otimes a_p) \otimes (b_1 \otimes \dots \otimes b_q)$  we denote by  $E_{p,q}(a_1, \dots, a_p; b_1, \dots, b_q)$ .

It is not hard to check that the multiplication  $\mu_E$  induced by  $E$  (or equivalently by a collection of multioperations  $\{E_{p,q}\}$ ) has the unit  $1_\Lambda \in \Lambda \subset BA$  if and only if

$$E_{0,1} = E_{1,0} = id; \quad E_{0,k} = E_{k,0} = 0, \quad k > 1. \quad (6)$$

So we can summarize:

**Proposition 1.** *The multiplication  $\mu_E$  induced by a collection of multioperations  $\{E_{p,q}\}$  turns  $BA$  into a DG-bialgebra, i.e. satisfies (i-iii), if and only if the conditions (4), (5), and (6) are satisfied.*

Let us interpret the condition (4) in terms of the components  $E_{pq}$ .

The restriction of (4) on  $A \otimes A$  gives

$$dE_{1,1}(a; b) + E_{1,1}(da; b) + E_{1,1}(a; db) = a \cdot b + b \cdot a. \quad (7)$$

This condition coincides with the condition (1), i.e. the operation  $E_{1,1}$  is sort of  $\smile_1$  product, which measures the noncommutativity of  $A$ . Below we denote  $E_{1,1}(a; b) = a \smile_1 b$ .

The restriction on  $A^{\otimes 2} \otimes A$  gives

$$\begin{aligned} dE_{2,1}(a, b; c) + E_{2,1}(da, b; c) + E_{2,1}(a, db; c) + E_{2,1}(a, b; dc) = \\ (a \cdot b) \smile_1 c + a \cdot (b \smile_1 c) + (a \smile_1 c) \cdot b, \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

this means, that this  $\smile_1$  satisfies the *left Hirsch formula* (2) up to homotopy and the appropriate homotopy is the operation  $E_{2,1}$ .

The restriction on  $A \otimes A^{\otimes 2}$  gives:

$$\begin{aligned} dE_{1,2}(a; b, c) + E_{1,2}(da; b, c) + E_{1,2}(a; db, c) + E_{1,2}(a; b, dc) = \\ a \smile_1 (b \cdot c) + (a \smile_1 b) \cdot c + b \cdot (a \smile_1 c), \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

this means, that this  $\smile_1$  satisfies the *right Hirsch formula* (2) up to homotopy and the appropriate homotopy is the operation  $E_{1,2}$ .

Generally the restriction of (4) on  $A^{\otimes m} \otimes A^{\otimes n}$  gives:

$$\begin{aligned} dE_{m,n}(a_1, \dots, a_m; b_1, \dots, b_n) + \sum_i E_{m,n}(a_1, \dots, da_i, \dots, a_m; b_1, \dots, b_n) + \\ + \sum_i E_{m,n}(a_1, \dots, a_m; b_1, \dots, db_i, \dots, b_n) = \\ a_1 \cdot E_{m-1,n}(a_2, \dots, a_m; b_1, \dots, b_n) + E_{m-1,n}(a_1, \dots, a_{m-1}; b_1, \dots, b_n) \cdot a_m \\ + b_1 \cdot E_{m,n-1}(a_1, \dots, a_m; b_2, \dots, b_n) + E_{m,n-1}(a_1, \dots, a_m; b_1, \dots, b_{n-1}) \cdot b_m + \\ \sum_i E_{m-1,n}(a_1, \dots, a_i \cdot a_{i+1}, \dots, a_m; b_1, \dots, b_n) + \\ \sum_i E_{m,n-1}(a_1, \dots, a_m; b_1, \dots, b_i \cdot b_{i+1}, \dots, b_n) + \\ \sum_{p=1}^{m-1} \sum_{q=1}^{n-1} E_{p,q}(a_1, \dots, a_p; b_1, \dots, b_q) \cdot E_{m-p,n-q}(a_{p+1}, \dots, a_m; b_{q+1}, \dots, b_n). \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

Now let us interpret the associativity condition (5) in terms of the components  $E_{p,q}$ . The restriction of (5) on  $A \otimes A \otimes A$  gives

$$(a \smile_1 b) \smile_1 c + a \smile_1 (b \smile_1 c) = E_{1,2}(a; b, c) + E_{1,2}(a; c, b) + \\ E_{2,1}(a, b; c) + E_{2,1}(b, a; c). \quad (11)$$

Generally the restriction of (5) on  $A^{\otimes k} \otimes A^{\otimes l} \otimes A^{\otimes m}$  gives

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{r=1}^{l+m} \sum_{l_1+\dots+l_r=l, m_1+\dots+m_r=m} E_{k,r}(a_1, \dots, a_k; E_{l_1,m_1}(b_1, \dots, b_{l_1}; c_1, \dots, c_{m_1}), \dots, \\ E_{l_r,m_r}(b_{l_1+\dots+l_{r-1}+1}, \dots, b_l; c_{m_1+\dots+m_{r-1}+1}, \dots, c_m) = \\ \sum_{s+1}^{k+l} \sum_{k_1+\dots+k_s=k, l_1+\dots+l_s=l} E_{s,m}(E_{k_1,l_1}(a_1, \dots, a_{k_1}; b_1, \dots, b_{l_1}), \dots, \\ E_{k_s,l_s}(a_{k_1+\dots+k_{s-1}+1}, \dots, a_k; b_{l_1+\dots+l_{s-1}+1}, \dots, b_l); c_1, \dots, c_m) \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

We define a *Hirsch algebra* as a DG-algebra  $(A, d, \cdot)$  endowed with a sequence of multioperations  $\{E_{p,q}\}$  satisfying (6), (10). This name is inspired by the fact that the defining condition (10) can be regarded as generalizations of classical Hirsch formula (2). This notion was used in [12], [13].

A Hirsch algebra we call *associative* if in addition the condition (12) is satisfied.

This structure is a particular case of  $B_\infty$ -algebra, see below. Moreover turn the notion of *homotopy G-algebra*, described below, is a particular case of an associative Hirsch algebra.

**3.2. Some particular cases.** For a Hirsch algebra  $(A, d, \cdot, \{E_{p,q}\})$  the operation  $E_{1,1} = \sim_1$  satisfies (1), so this structure can be considered as a tool which measures the noncommutativity of the product  $a \cdot b$  of  $A$ . We distinguish various levels of "noncommutativity" of  $A$  according to the form of  $\{E_{p,q}\}$ .

**Level 1.** Suppose for the collection  $\{E_{p,q}\}$  all the operations except  $E_{0,1} = id$  and  $E_{1,0} = id$  are trivial. Then it follows from (7) that in this case  $A$  is a *strictly* commutative DG-algebra.

**Level 2.** Suppose all operations except  $E_{0,1} = id$ ,  $E_{1,0} = id$  and  $E_{1,1}$  are trivial. In this case  $A$  is endowed with a "strict"  $\sim_1$  product  $a \sim_1 b = E_{1,1}(a; b)$ : the condition (10) here degenerates to the following 4 conditions

$$\begin{aligned} d(a \sim_1 b) &= da \sim_1 b + a \sim_1 db + a \cdot b + b \cdot a, \\ (a \cdot b) \sim_1 c + a \cdot (b \sim_1 c) + (a \sim_1 c) \cdot b &= 0, \\ a \sim_1 (b \cdot c) + b \cdot (a \sim_1 c) + (a \sim_1 b) \cdot c &= 0, \\ (a \sim_1 c) \cdot (b \sim_1 d) &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

The condition (12) degenerates to the associativity  $\sim_1$

$$a \sim_1 (b \sim_1 c) = (a \sim_1 b) \sim_1 c.$$

As we see in this case we have very strong restrictions on  $\sim_1$ -product. An example of DG-algebra with such strict  $\sim_1$  product is  $(H^*(SX, Z_2), d = 0)$  with  $a \sim_1 b = 0$  if  $a \neq b$  and  $a \sim_1 a = Sq^{|a|-1}a$ , another example is  $C^*(SX, CX)$ , where  $SX$  is the suspension and  $CX$  is the cone of a space  $X$  (see [18]).

**Level 3.** Suppose all operations except  $E_{0,1} = id$ ,  $E_{1,0} = id$  and  $E_{1,k}$ ,  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  are trivial. In this case the condition (10) degenerates into two conditions: at  $A \otimes A^{\otimes k}$

$$\begin{aligned} dE_{1,k}(a; b_1, \dots, b_k) + E_{1,k}(da; b_1, \dots, b_k) + \sum_i E_{1,k}(a; b_1, \dots, db_i, \dots, b_k) = \\ b_1 \cdot E_{1,k-1}(a; b_2, \dots, b_k) + E_{1,k-1}(a; b_1, \dots, b_{k-1}) \cdot b_k + \\ \sum_i E_{1,k-1}(a; b_1, \dots, b_i \cdot b_{i+1}, \dots, b_k), \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

and at  $A^{\otimes 2} \otimes A^{\otimes k}$

$$\begin{aligned} E_{1,k}(a_1 \cdot a_2; b_1, \dots, b_k) = a_1 \cdot E_{1,k}(a_2; b_1, \dots, b_k) + E_{1,k}(a_1; b_1, \dots, b_k) \cdot a_2 + \\ \sum_{p=1}^{k-1} E_{1,p}(a_1; b_1, \dots, b_p) \cdot E_{1,m-p}(a_2; b_{p+1}, \dots, b_k); \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

moreover at  $A^{\otimes n > 2} \otimes A^{\otimes k}$  the condition is trivial. In particular the condition (8) here degenerates to Hirsch formula (2).

The associativity condition (12) in this case looks as

$$\begin{aligned} E_{1,n}(E_{1,m}(a; b_1, \dots, b_m); c_1, \dots, c_n) = \sum_{0 \leq i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_m \leq n} \sum_{0 \leq n_1 + \dots + n_r \leq n} \\ E_{1,n-(n_1+\dots+n_j)+j}(a; c_1, \dots, c_{i_1}, E_{1,n_1}(b_1; c_{i_1+1}, \dots, c_{i_1+n_1}), c_{i_1+n_1+1}, \dots, \\ c_{i_2}, E_{1,n_2}(b_2; c_{i_2+1}, \dots, c_{i_2+n_2}), c_{i_2+n_2+1}, \dots, \\ c_{i_m}, E_{1,n_m}(b_m; c_{i_m+1}, \dots, c_{i_m+n_m}), c_{i_m+n_m+1}, \dots, c_n), \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

In particular the condition (11) here degenerates to

$$(a \sim_1 b) \sim_1 c + a \sim_1 (b \sim_1 c) = E_{1,2}(a; b, c) + E_{1,2}(a; c, b). \quad (16)$$

The structure of this level coincides with the notion of *Homotopy G-algebra*, see below.

**Level 4.** As the last level we consider a Hirsch algebra structure with no restrictions. An example of such structure is the cochain complex of a 1-reduced cubical set. Note that it is a *nonassociative* Hirsch algebra.

**3.3.  $B_\infty$ -algebra.** The notion of  $B_\infty$ -algebra was introduced in [2], [10] as an additional structure on a DG-algebra  $(A, \cdot, d)$  which turns the tensor coalgebra  $T^c(s^{-1}A) = BA$  into a DG-bialgebra. So it requires a new differential

$$\tilde{d} : BA \rightarrow BA$$

(which should be a coderivation with respect to standard coproduct of  $BA$ ) and a new associative multiplication

$$\tilde{\mu} : (BA, \tilde{d}) \otimes (BA, \tilde{d}) \rightarrow (BA, \tilde{d})$$

which should be a map of DG-coalgebras, with  $1_\Lambda \in \Lambda \subset BA$  as the unit element.

It is known that such  $\tilde{d}$  specifies on  $A$  a structure of  $A_\infty$ -algebra in the sense of Stasheff [19], namely a sequence of operations  $\{m_i : \otimes^i A \rightarrow A, i = 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$  subject of appropriate conditions.

As for the new multiplication  $\tilde{\mu}$ , it follows from the above considerations, that it is induced by a sequence of operations  $\{E_{pq}\}$  satisfying (6), (12) and the modified condition (10) with involved  $A_\infty$ -algebra structure  $\{m_i\}$ .

Thus the structure of associative Hirsch algebra is a particular  $B_\infty$ -algebra structure on  $A$  when the standard differential of the bar construction  $d_B : BA \rightarrow BA$  does not change, i.e.  $\tilde{d} = d_B$  (in this case the corresponding  $A_\infty$ -algebra structure is degenerate:  $m_1 = d_A, m_2 = \cdot, m_3 = 0, m_4 = 0, \dots$ ).

Let us mention, that a twisting cochain  $E$  satisfying (6) and (4), (but not (5) i.e. the induced product in the bar construction is not strictly associative), was constructed in [14] for the singular cochain complex of a topological space  $C^*(X)$  using acyclic models. The condition (6) determines this twisting cochain  $E$  uniquely up to standard equivalence (homotopy) of twisting cochains in the sense of N. Berikashvili [4].

**3.4. Strong homotopy commutative algebras.** The notion of strong homotopy commutative algebra (shc-algebra), as a tool for measuring of noncommutativity of DG-algebras, was used in many papers: [17], [20], etc.

A shc-algebra is a DG-algebra  $(A, d, \cdot)$  with a given twisting cochain  $\Phi : B(A \otimes A) \rightarrow A$  which satisfies appropriate up to homotopy conditions of associativity and commutativity. Compare with the Hirsch algebra structure which is represented by a twisting cochain  $E : BA \otimes BA \rightarrow A$ . Standard contraction of  $B(A \otimes A)$  to  $BA \otimes BA$  allows to establish connection between these two notions.

**3.5. DG-Lie algebra structure in a Hirsch algebra.** A structure of an associative Hirsch algebra on  $A$  induces on the homology  $H(A)$  a structure of Gerstenhaber algebra (G-algebra) (see [6], [8], [21]) which is defined as a commutative graded algebra  $(H, \cdot)$  together with a Lie bracket of degree -1

$$[ , ] : H^p \otimes H^q \rightarrow H^{p+q-1}$$

(i.e. a graded Lie algebra structure on the desuspension  $s^{-1}H$ ) that is a biderivation:  $[a, b \cdot c] = [a, b] \cdot c + b \cdot [a, c]$ .

The existence of this structure in the homology  $H(A)$  is seen by the following argument.

Let  $(A, d, \cdot, \{E_{p,q}\})$  be an associative Hirsch algebra, then in the desuspension  $s^{-1}A$  there appears a structure of DG-Lie algebra: although the  $\smile_1 = E_{1,1}$  is not associative, the condition (11) implies the pre-Jacobi identity

$$a \smile_1 (b \smile_1 c) + (a \smile_1 b) \smile_1 c = a \smile_1 (c \smile_1 b) + (a \smile_1 c) \smile_1 b$$

This condition guarantees that the commutator  $[a, b] = a \smile_1 b + b \smile_1 a$  satisfies the Jacobi identity. Besides the condition (7) implies that  $[ , ] : A^p \otimes A^q \rightarrow A^{p+q-1}$  is a chain map. Thus on  $s^{-1}H(A)$  there appears the structure of graded Lie algebra. The up to homotopy Hirsh formulae (8) and (9) imply that the induced Lie bracket is a biderivation.

**3.6. Homotopy G-algebra.** An associative Hirsch algebra of level 3 in the literature is known as *Homotopy G-algebra*.

A *Homotopy G-algebra* in [8] and [21] is defined as a DG-algebra  $(A, d, \cdot)$  with a given sequence of multibraces  $a\{a_1, \dots, a_k\}$  which, in our notation, we regard as a sequence of operations

$$E_{1,k} : A \otimes (\otimes^k A) \rightarrow A, \quad k = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

which, together with  $E_{01} = id$  satisfies the conditions (6), (13), (14) and (15).

The name *Homotopy G-algebra* is motivated by the fact that this structure induces on the homology  $H(A)$  the structure of G-algebra (as we have seen in the previous section such a structure appears even on the homology of an associative Hirsch algebra).

The conditions (13), (14), and (15) in [8] are called *higher homotopies, distributivity* and *higher pre-Jacobi identities* respectively. As we have seen the first two conditions mean that  $E : BA \otimes BA \rightarrow A$  is a twisting cochain, or equivalently  $\mu_E : BA \otimes BA \rightarrow BA$  is a chain map, and the third one means that this multiplication is associative.

**3.7. Operadic description.** Appropriate language to describe such huge sets of operations is the operadic language. Here we use *surjection operad*  $\chi$  and *Barratt-Eccles operad*  $\mathcal{E}$  which are most convenient  $E_\infty$  operads. For definitions we refer to [3].

The operations  $E_{1,k}$  forming hGa have nice description in the *surjection operad*, see [15], [16], [3]. Namely, to the dot product corresponds the element  $(1, 2) \in \chi_0(2)$ , to  $E_{1,1} = \smile_1$  product corresponds  $(1, 2, 1) \in \chi_1(2)$ , to the operation  $E_{1,2}$  the element  $(1, 2, 1, 3) \in \chi_2(3)$ , etc. Generally to the operation  $E_{1,k}$  corresponds the element

$$E_{1,k} = (1, 2, 1, 3, \dots, 1, k, 1, k+1, 1) \in \chi_k(k+1). \quad (17)$$

We remark here that the defining conditions of a hGa (13), (14), (15) can be expressed in terms of operadic structure (differential, symmetric group action and composition product) and the elements (17) satisfy these conditions *already in the operad*  $\chi$ . This in particular implies that *any  $\chi$ -algebra is automatically a hGa*. Note that the elements (17) together with  $(1, 2)$  generate the suboperad  $F_2\chi$  which is equivalent to the little square operad. This fact and a hGa structure on the Hochschild cochain complex  $C^*(U, U)$  of an algebra  $U$  are used by many authors to prove so called Deligne conjecture about the action of the little square operad on  $C^*(U, U)$ .

Now look at the operations  $E_{p,q}$  which define a structure of Hirsch algebra. They *can not live* in  $\chi$ : it is enough to mention that the Hirsch formula (2), as a part of defining conditions of hGa, is satisfied in  $\chi$ , but for a Hirsch algebra this condition is satisfied up to homotopy  $E_{2,1}$ , see (8). We believe that  $E_{p,q}$ -s live in

the Barratt-Eccles operad  $\mathcal{E}$ . In particular direct calculation shows that

$$\begin{aligned} E_{1,1} &= ((1, 2), (2, 1)) \in \mathcal{E}_1(2); \\ E_{1,2} &= ((\mathbf{1}, 2, 3), (2, \mathbf{1}, 3), (2, 3, \mathbf{1})) \in \mathcal{E}_2(3); \\ E_{2,1} &= ((1, 2, \mathbf{3}), (1, \mathbf{3}, 2), (\mathbf{3}, 1, 2)) \in \mathcal{E}_2(3); \\ E_{1,3} &= ((\mathbf{1}, 2, 3, 4), (2, \mathbf{1}, 3, 4), (2, 3, \mathbf{1}, 4), (2, 3, 4, \mathbf{1})) \in \mathcal{E}_3(4); \\ E_{3,1} &= ((1, 2, 3, \mathbf{4}), (1, 2, \mathbf{4}, 3), (1, \mathbf{4}, 2, 3), (\mathbf{4}, 1, 2, 3)) \in \mathcal{E}_3(4); \end{aligned}$$

and in general

$$\begin{aligned} E_{1,k} &= ((\mathbf{1}, 2, \dots, k+1), \dots, (2, 3, \dots, i, \mathbf{1}, i+1, \dots, k+1), \dots, (2, 3, \dots, k+1, \mathbf{1})); \\ E_{k,1} &= ((1, 2, \dots, \mathbf{k}+1), \dots, (1, 2, \dots, i, \mathbf{k}+1, i+1, \dots, k), \dots, (\mathbf{k}+1, 1, 2, \dots, k)). \end{aligned}$$

As for other  $E_{p,q}$ -s we can indicate just

$$\begin{aligned} E_{2,2} = & ((1, 2, 3, 4), (1, 3, 4, 2), (3, 1, 4, 2), (3, 4, 1, 2)) + \\ & ((1, 2, 3, 4), (3, 1, 2, 4), (3, 1, 4, 2), (3, 4, 1, 2)) + \\ & ((1, 2, 3, 4), (1, 3, 2, 4), (1, 3, 4, 2), (3, 1, 4, 2)) + \\ & ((1, 2, 3, 4), (1, 3, 2, 4), (3, 1, 2, 4), (3, 1, 4, 2)). \end{aligned}$$

We remark that the operadic *table reduction* map  $TR : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \chi$ , see [3], maps  $E_{k>1,1}$  and  $E_{2,2}$  to zero, and  $E_{1,k} \in \mathcal{E}_k(k+1)$  to  $E_{1,k} \in \chi_k(k+1)$ .

#### 4. ADAMS $\smile_1$ -PRODUCT IN THE COBAR CONSTRUCTION OF A BIALGEBRA

Here we present the Adams  $\smile_1$ -product  $\smile_1 : \Omega A \otimes \Omega A \rightarrow \Omega A$  on the cobar construction  $\Omega A$  of a DG-bialgebra  $(A, d, \Delta : A \rightarrow A \otimes A, \mu : A \otimes A \rightarrow A)$  (see [1]). This will be the first step in the construction of hGa structure on  $\Omega A$ .

This  $\smile_1$  product satisfies the Steenrod condition (1) and the Hirsch formula (2).

First we define the  $\smile_1$ -product of two elements  $x = [a], y = [b] \in \Omega A$  of length 1 as  $[a] \smile_1 [b] = [a \cdot b]$ . Extending this definition by (2) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} [a_1, a_2] \smile_1 [b] &= ([a_1] \cdot [a_2]) \smile_1 [b] = [a_1] \cdot ([a_2] \smile_1 [b]) + ([a_1] \smile_1 [b]) \cdot [a_2] = \\ &= [a_1] \cdot [a_2 \cdot b] + [a_1 \cdot b] \cdot [a_2] = [a_1, a_2 \cdot b] + [a_1 \cdot b, a_2]. \end{aligned}$$

Further iteration of this process gives

$$[a_1, \dots, a_n] \smile_1 [b] = \sum_i [a_1, \dots, a_{i-1}, a_i \cdot b, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_n].$$

Now let's define  $[a] \smile_1 [b_1, b_2] = [a^{(1)} \cdot b, a^{(2)} \cdot b]$  where  $\Delta a = a^{(1)} \otimes a^{(2)}$  is the value of the diagonal  $\Delta : A \rightarrow A \otimes A$  on  $[a]$ . Inspection shows that the condition (1) for short elements

$$d([a] \smile_1 [b]) = d[a] \smile_1 [b] + [a] \smile_1 d[b] + [a] \cdot [b] + [b] \cdot [a].$$

is satisfied.

Generally we define the  $\smile_1$  product of an element  $x = [a] \in \Omega A$  of length 1 and an element  $y = [b_1, \dots, b_n] \in \Omega A$  of arbitrary length by

$$[a] \smile_1 [b_1, \dots, b_n] = [a^{(1)} \cdot b_1, \dots, a^{(n)} \cdot b_n],$$

here  $\Delta^n(a) = a^{(1)} \otimes \dots \otimes a^{(n)}$  is the n-fold iteration of the diagonal  $\Delta : A \rightarrow A \otimes A$  and  $a \cdot b = \mu(a \otimes b)$  is the product in  $A$ .

Extending this definition for the elements of arbitrary lengths  $[a_1, \dots, a_m] \smile_1 [b_1, \dots, b_n]$  by the Hirsch formula (2) we obtain the general formula

$$[a_1, \dots, a_m] \smile_1 [b_1, \dots, b_n] = \sum_k [a_1, \dots, a_{k-1}, a_k^{(1)} \cdot b_1, \dots, a_k^{(n)} \cdot b_n, a_{k+1}, \dots, a_m]. \quad (18)$$

Of course so defined  $\smile_1$  satisfies the Hirsch formula (2) automatically. It remains to prove the

**Proposition 2.** *This  $\smile_1$  satisfies Steenrod condition (1)*

$$\begin{aligned} d_\Omega([a_1, \dots, a_m] \smile_1 [b_1, \dots, b_n]) &= \\ d_\Omega[a_1, \dots, a_m] \smile_1 [b_1, \dots, b_n] + [a_1, \dots, a_m] \smile_1 d_\Omega[b_1, \dots, b_n] + \\ [a_1, \dots, a_m, b_1, \dots, b_n] + [b_1, \dots, b_n, a_1, \dots, a_m]. \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** Let us denote this condition by  $Steen_{m,n}$ . The first step consists in direct checking of the conditions  $Steen_{1,m}$  by induction on  $m$ . Furthermore, assume that  $Steen_{m,n}$  is satisfied. Let us check the condition  $Steen_{m+1,n}$  for  $[a, a_1, \dots, a_m] \smile_1 [b_1, \dots, b_n]$ . We denote  $[a_1, \dots, a_m] = x$ ,  $[b_1, \dots, b_n] = y$ . Using the Hirsch formula (2),  $Steen_{m,n}$ , and  $Steen_{1,n}$  we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} d([a, a_1, \dots, a_m] \smile_1 [b_1, \dots, b_n]) &= \\ d(([a] \cdot x) \smile_1 y) &= d([a] \cdot (x \smile_1 y) + ([a] \smile_1 y) \cdot x) = \\ = d[a] \cdot (x \smile_1 y) + [a] \cdot (dx \smile_1 y + x \smile_1 dy + x \cdot y + y \cdot x) + \\ (d[a] \smile_1 y + [a] \smile_1 dy + [a] \cdot y + y \cdot [a]) \cdot x + ([a] \smile_1 y) dx = \\ d[a] \cdot (x \smile_1 y) + [a] \cdot (dx \smile_1 y) + [a] \cdot (x \smile_1 dy) + [a] \cdot x \cdot y + [a] \cdot y \cdot x + \\ (d[a] \smile_1 y) x + ([a] \smile_1 dy) x + [a] \cdot y \cdot x + y \cdot [a] \cdot x + ([a] \smile_1 y) dx. \end{aligned}$$

Besides, using Hirsch (2) formula we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} d[a, a_1, \dots, a_m] \smile_1 [b_1, \dots, b_n] &= \\ d([a] \cdot x) \smile_1 y &= (d[a] \cdot x) \smile_1 y + ([a] \cdot dx) \smile_1 y = \\ d[a] \cdot (x \smile_1 y) + (d[a] \smile_1 y) \cdot x + [a] \cdot (dx \smile_1 y) + ([a] \smile_1 y) \cdot dx \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} [a, a_1, \dots, a_m] \smile_1 d[b_1, \dots, b_n] &= \\ ([a] \cdot x) \smile_1 dy &= [a] \cdot (x \smile_1 dy) + ([a] \smile_1 dy) \cdot x, \end{aligned}$$

now it is evident that  $Steen_{m+1,n}$  is satisfied. This completes the proof.

## 5. HOMOTOPY G-ALGEBRA STRUCTURE ON THE COBAR CONSTRUCTION OF A BIALGEBRA

Below we present a sequence of operations

$$E_{1,k} : \Omega A \otimes (\Omega A)^{\otimes k} \rightarrow \Omega A,$$

which extends the above described  $E_{1,1} = \smile_1$  to a structure of homotopy G-algebra on the cobar construction of a DG-bialgebra. This means that  $E_{1,k}$ -s satisfy the conditions (13), (14) and (15).

For  $x = [a] \in \Omega A$  of length 1,  $y_i \in \Omega A$  and  $k > 1$  we define  $E_{1,k}([a]; y_1, \dots, y_k) = 0$  and extend for an arbitrary  $x = [a_1, \dots, a_n]$  by (14). This gives

$$E_{1,k}([a_1, \dots, a_n]; y_1, \dots, y_k) = 0$$

for  $n < k$  and

$$E_{1,k}([a_1, \dots, a_k]; y_1, \dots, y_k) = [a_1 \diamond y_1, \dots, a_k \diamond y_k],$$

here we use the notation  $a \diamond (b_1, \dots, b_s) = (a^{(1)} \cdot b_1, \dots, a^{(s)} \cdot b_s)$ , so using this notation  $[a] \smile_1 [b_1, \dots, b_s] = [a \diamond (b_1, \dots, b_s)]$ . Further iteration by (14) gives the general formula

$$\begin{aligned} E_{1,k}([a_1, \dots, a_n]; y_1, \dots, y_k) = \\ \sum [a_1, \dots, a_{i_1-1}, a_{i_1} \diamond y_1, a_{i_1+1}, \dots, a_{i_k-1}, a_{i_k} \diamond y_k, a_{i_k+1}, \dots, a_n], \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

where the summation is taken over all  $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n$ .

Of course so defined operations  $E_{1,k}$  automatically satisfy the condition (14). It remains to prove the

**Proposition 3.** *The operations  $E_{1,k}$  satisfy the conditions (13) and (15).*

**Proof.** The condition (13) is trivial for  $x = [a]$  of length 1 and  $k > 2$ . For  $x = [a]$  and  $k = 2$  this condition degenerates to

$$E_{1,1}([a]; y_1 \cdot y_2) + y_1 \cdot E_{1,1}([a]; y_2) - E_{1,1}([a]; y_1) \cdot y_2 = 0$$

and this equality easily follows from the definition of  $E_{1,1} = \smile_1$ . For a long  $x = [a_1, \dots, a_m]$  the condition (13) can be checked by induction on the length  $m$  of  $x$  using the condition (14).

Similarly, the condition (15) is trivial for  $x = [a]$  of length 1 unless the case  $m = n = 1$  and in this case this condition degenerates to

$$E_{1,1}(E_{1,1}(x; y); z) = E_{1,1}(x; E_{1,1}(y); z)) + E_{1,2}(x; y, z) + E_{1,2}(x; z, y).$$

This equality easily follows from the definition of  $E_{1,1} = \smile_1$ . For a long  $x = [a_1, \dots, a_m]$  the condition (15) can be checked by induction on the length  $m$  of  $x$  using the condition (14).

**Remark 1.** *For a DG-coalgebra  $(A, d, \Delta : A \rightarrow A \otimes A)$  there is a standard DG-coalgebra map  $g_A : A \rightarrow B\Omega A$  from  $A$  to the bar of cobar of  $A$ . This map is the coextension of the universal twisting cochain  $\phi_A : A \rightarrow \Omega A$  defined by  $\phi(a) = [a]$  and is a weak equivalence, i.e. it induces an isomorphism of homology. Suppose  $A$  is a DG-bialgebra. Then the constructed sequence of operations  $E_{1,k}$  define a multiplication  $\mu_E : B\Omega A \otimes B\Omega A \rightarrow B\Omega A$  on the bar construction  $B\Omega A$  so that it becomes a DG-bialgebra. Direct inspection shows that  $g_A : A \rightarrow B\Omega A$  is multiplicative, so it is a weak equivalence of DG-bialgebras. Dualizing this statement we obtain a weak equivalence of DG-bialgebras  $\Omega B\Omega A \rightarrow A$  which can be considered as a free (as an algebra) resolution of a DG-bialgebra  $A$ .*

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